

# Benton, NH



## Community Contact

## Benton Board of Selectmen

**William Darcy, Chairman**  
221 Coventry Road  
Benton, NH 03785

Telephone  
Fax  
E-mail  
Web Site

**(603) 787-6541**  
**Not Available**  
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**www.tobentonnh.org**

## Municipal Office Hours

**By appointment only**

County  
Labor Market Area  
Tourism Region  
Planning Commission  
Regional Development

**Grafton**  
**Haverhill, NH LMA**  
**White Mountains**  
**North Country Council**  
**Grafton County Economic Development Council**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
Executive Council  
State Senate  
State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 2**  
**District 1**  
**Grafton County District 5**

**Incorporated:** 1764

**Origin:** This community was first granted in 1764 as Coventry after the Connecticut home of many settlers, holding the name for over 75 years. In 1839, Governor Isaac Hill proposed renaming the town Benton in honor of Thomas Hart Benton, senator from Missouri. The town was incorporated as such in 1840. Senator Benton was known for championing Western expansion through establishment of express, railroad, navigation, and telegraph interests. A prominent natural feature in Benton is Mount Moosilauke, a popular site for hikers.

**Villages and Place Names:** Boutin Corner, Coventry

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 88 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Benton totaled 171 over 50 years, from 194 in 1970 to 365 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 72 percent increase from 1970 to 1980; the town lost population over the next two decades. The town's population was unchanged from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Benton was 369 residents, which ranked 220th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau):** 7.6 persons per square mile of land area. Benton contains 48.5 square miles of land area and 0.2 square miles of inland water area.



Grafton County

<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2023	<b>\$127,475</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2022-2023	<b>\$614,173</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>2021</b>
Master Plan	<b>0</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>No</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	

Boards and Commissions  
 Elected: **Selectmen; Planning**  
 Appointed:

Public Library **No Library**

<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>		
Police Department	<b>State Police</b>	
Fire Department	<b>Contracted out</b>	
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Woodsville Ambulance</b>	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Cottage Hospital, Woodsville</b>	<b>12 miles</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>UTILITIES</b>		
Electric Supplier	<b>NH Electric Coop</b>	
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>	
Water Supplier	<b>Private wells</b>	
Sanitation	<b>Private septic</b>	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>No</b>	
Solid Waste Disposal		
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>Private</b>	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>	
Recycling Program	<b>None</b>	
Telephone Company	<b>Consolidated Communications</b>	
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Limited</b>	
Cable Television Access	<b>Satellite only</b>	
Public Access Television Station	<b>No</b>	
High Speed Internet Service:	Business	<b>No</b>
	Residential	<b>No</b>

<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2022 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$17.05</b>
2022 Equalization Ratio	<b>59.0</b>
2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$10.04</b>
2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>93.6%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>0.3%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>6.1%</b>

<b>HOUSING</b> (ACS 2017-2021)	
Total Housing Units	<b>151</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>139</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>0</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>0</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>12</b>

<b>POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)</b>		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population	Community	County	
2022	<b>369</b>	<b>91,126</b>	
2020	<b>374</b>	<b>91,118</b>	
2010	<b>364</b>	<b>89,118</b>	
2000	<b>314</b>	<b>81,826</b>	
1990	<b>330</b>	<b>74,998</b>	
1980	<b>333</b>	<b>65,806</b>	

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>			<b>AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021</b>	
Population by Gender				
Male	<b>187</b>	Female	<b>186</b>	
Population by Age Group				
Under age 5	<b>1</b>			
Age 5 to 19	<b>24</b>			
Age 20 to 34	<b>30</b>			
Age 35 to 54	<b>47</b>			
Age 55 to 64	<b>132</b>			
Age 65 and over	<b>139</b>			
Median Age	<b>62.3 years</b>			
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over: <b>340</b>				
High school graduate or higher	<b>78.5%</b>			
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>16.8%</b>			

<b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b>		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Per capita income	<b>\$25,895</b>		
Median family income	<b>\$75,625</b>		
Median household income	<b>\$59,000</b>		
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male	<b>\$33,125</b>		
Female	<b>\$31,250</b>		
Individuals below the poverty level	<b>12.0%</b>		

<b>LABOR FORCE</b>			(NHES – ELMII)	
Annual Average	2012	2022		
Civilian labor force	<b>145</b>	<b>142</b>		
Employed	<b>139</b>	<b>137</b>		
Unemployed	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>		
Unemployment rate	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>		

<b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b>				(NHES – ELMII)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2012	2022			
Goods Producing Industries					
Average Employment	<b>n</b>	<b>0</b>			
Average Weekly Wage	<b>n</b>	<b>\$0</b>			
Service Providing Industries					
Average Employment	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			
Average Weekly Wage	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			
Total Private Industry					
Average Employment	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			
Average Weekly Wage	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			
Government (Federal, State, and Local)					
Average Employment	<b>173</b>	<b>133</b>			
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 803</b>	<b>\$1,041</b>			
Total, Private Industry plus Government					
Average Employment	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			
Average Weekly Wage	<b>n</b>	<b>n</b>			

If "n" appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are tuitioned to Haverhill Cooperative (Bath, Benton, Haverhill, Piermont, Warren)** District: **SAU 23**

Career Technology Center(s): **River Bend Career & Technical Center (VT)**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools				
Grade Levels				
Total Enrollment				

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region; White Mountains**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Plymouth State**

2022 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: Total Capacity:

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Glenncliff Home NH DHHS	Nursing home	200	1971
Coventry Garage	Garage	1	1989
Elliott Construction	Construction	1	
Joe Boutin, Jr & Son	Logging & excavation	2	

## Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)			
Road Access	US Routes		
	State Routes	<b>112, 116</b>	
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-91 (VT), Exit 17</b>	
	Distance	<b>13 miles</b>	
Railroad		<b>No</b>	
Public Transportation		<b>No</b>	
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
<b>Dean Memorial, Haverhill</b>	Runway	<b>2,500 ft. asphalt</b>	
Lighted?	Yes	Navigation Aids?	<b>No</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
<b>Lebanon Municipal</b>	Distance	<b>47 miles</b>	
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>1</b>	
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH		<b>95 miles</b>	
Portland, Maine		<b>112 miles</b>	
Boston, Mass.		<b>145 miles</b>	
New York City, NY		<b>307 miles</b>	
Montreal, Quebec		<b>179 miles</b>	
COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2017-2021)			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van		<b>75.0%</b>	
Carpooled, car/truck/van		<b>14.2%</b>	
Public transportation		<b>0.0%</b>	
Walked		<b>0.0%</b>	
Other means		<b>7.5%</b>	
Worked at home		<b>3.3%</b>	
Mean Travel Time to Work		<b>27.4 minutes</b>	
Percent of Working Residents			
Working in community of residence		<b>32.5%</b>	
Commuting to another NH community		<b>61.7%</b>	
Commuting out-of-state		<b>5.8%</b>	

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
	Tourist Attractions
	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
	Youth Sports: Baseball
	Youth Sports: Soccer
	Youth Sports: Football
	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
<b>X</b>	Snowmobile Trails
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Loon &amp; Cannon Mountains</b>
	Other: <b>Hiking; White Mountain National Forest: Long Pond; Mount Moosilauke; Black Mountain</b>